

**PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q60938

Takashi ABE

Appln. No.: 09/685,771

Group Art Unit: 2827

Confirmation No.: 5049

Examiner: I. Patel

Filed: October 11, 2000

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

For: CIRCUIT BOARD

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

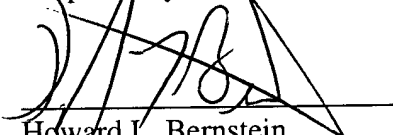
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: January 31, 2002

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Examiner: I. Patel

For: **CIRCUIT BOARD**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-263871, published October 13, 1995.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 11-220263, published August 10, 1999.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 4-261098, published September 17, 1992.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/685,771

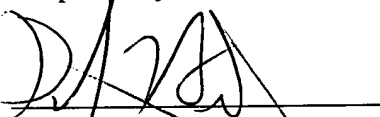
merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated January 21, 2003 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: January 31, 2003

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 09/685,771 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | 5049 |
| | | | | Filing Date | October 11, 2000 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Takashi ABE |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2827 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | I. Patel |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q60938 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 7-263871 | | 10-13-1995 | | No |
| | | JP | 11-220263 | | 08-10-1999 | | No |
| | | JP | 4-261098 | | 09-17-1992 | | No |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

Ref. Q60938

- Claims: 1 through 6
- Cited Literature: 1 through 3
- Remarks:

Cited Literature 1 through 3 describe a circuit substrate equipped with a ground plane on the obverse and the reverse where electronic components are implemented.

In addition, Cited Literature 1 describes a shorting plane on the edge of the substrate that short-circuits the ground layer.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H7-263871
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-220263
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H4-261098